

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5557

E. O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJECT: LABOR UNITY

REF: ROME 5273

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE SECRETARIAT OF THE FEDERATION CGIL-CISL-UIL (CCU) HAS FAILED ONCE AGAIN TO AGREE ON A PROGRAM FOR THE REALIZATION OF LABOR UNITY. A STRENGTHEND UIL MAJORITY AND THE CISL MINORITY OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPT TO SET UP A SCHEDULE OR DEADLINE FOR MERGING THE THREE CONFEDERATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE LAST-GASP EFFORT OF THE CCU SECRETARIATE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE LABOR UNITY PROPOSAL PREPARED BY CISL SEC GEN STORTI HAS FAILED. IN THE APRIL 14 MEETING, UIL CHIEF VANNI, SUPPORTED BY THE UIL REPUBLICANS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AS WELL AS SOME 10-13 SOCIALISTS UNDER THE LEAD OF FRANCO SIMONCINI, VOTED AGAINST THE DOCUMENT. ALSO VOTING AGAINST WAS THE CISL MINORITY. IN ADDITION, CISL NATIONAL SECRETARIES MARINI AND FANTONI ABSTAINED.

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3. AS A RESULT, THE CCU SECRETARIAT WILL BE UNABLE TO PRESENT A UNIFIED DOCUMENT TO THE GENERAL COUNCILS OF THE THREE CONFEDERA-

TIONS WHICH WILL CONVENE APRIL 16-18 ON THE LABOR UNITY ISSUE. INSTEAD, THE STORTI DOCUMENT WILL BE PUT FORWARD AS THE MAJORITY VIEW. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: THE OPPONENTS OF LABOR UNITY HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY STRENGTHENED BY BOTH THE SOCIALIST DEFECTIONS IN UIL AND THE ABSTENTION OF THE CISL "CENTRISTS" MARINI AND FANTONI. THIS ALL MEANS THAT UNLESS THE CGIL DECIDES TO PRESS FOR UNITY WITH THOSE IN FAVOR, THUS PRECIPITATING AND INCURRING THE ONUS FOR A SPLIT, THE REALIZATION OF LABOR UNITY WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL SHOVE INTO THE MORE DISTANT FUTURE. IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CGIL INSISTS UPON UNITY "WITH THOSE WHO WILL GO ALONG," THE CHANCES FOR THE SUCCESSFUL FORMATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE, NON-COMMUNIST LABOR CONFEDERATION WOULD BE MAXIMIZED. END COMMENT. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

5. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. MEANWHILE, CISL MINORITY LEADER PAOLO SARTORI, SECGEN OF THE SIZEABLE AGRICULTURAL WORKERS UNION, HAS REAFFIRMED TO US THAT HE IS WORKING FOR UNITY AMONG THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES (I.E., THE CISL MINORITY AND THE UIL MAJORITY) WHILE FENDING OFF THE BLANDISHMENTS OF THE CISL LEFT (CARNITI AND CREA, WHO WANT TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH HIM IN ORDER TO DUMP STORTI AND, IN EFFECT, PUSH CISL TO THE LEFT) AND THE PRESSURES FROM THE CISL RIGHT (SARTORI SAYS HE IS "TORMENTED DAILY" BY SCALIA WHO WANTS TO ENGINEER A SPLIT IN CISL). SARTORI ADDS THAT SCALIA HAS BEEN USEFUL IN TERRORIZING STORTI, SINCE THE LATTER IS MORTALLY AFRAID OF A SPLIT, AND HAS BEEN USED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY THE DC. OTHERWISE, SAYS SARTORI, SCALIA IS A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK FOR REALIZING "DEMOCRATIC UNITY" SINCE VANNI WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH SCALIA AND, IN GENERAL, VICE CERSA. END CONFIDENTIAL.BEAUDRY

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